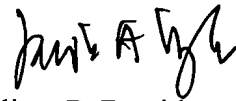


The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten paragraph (37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)(1)(iii)). Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

Changes to Specification:

Page 30, Table 5:

Table 5: Fluorescein Labeling of RNA and DNA oligonucleotides determined by MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry.

Labeling Agent	Metal	SEQ ID NO: 11 (RNA)	SEQ ID NO: 10 (RNA)	SEQ ID NO: 7 (RNA)	SEQ ID NO: 5 (DNA)
5-BMF	Zn ²⁺	+	++	+	++
	Tb ³⁺	-	ND	-	+
	None (H ₂ O)	-	-	-	-
6-IA-F	Zn ²⁺	-	-	+	++
	Tb ³⁺	-	-	ND	-
	None (H ₂ O)	-	-	-	-

Page 30, Table 6:

Table 6: Fragmentation of RNA and DNA oligonucleotides determined by MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry.

Labeling Agent	Metal	SEQ ID NO: 11 (RNA)	SEQ ID NO: 10 (RNA)	SEQ ID NO: 7 (RNA)	SEQ ID NO: 5 (DNA)
5-BMF	Zn ²⁺	++	+++	++	-
	Tb ³⁺	++	ND	+++	++
	None (H ₂ O)	-	-	+	-
6-IA-F	Zn ²⁺	-	-	++	-
	Tb ³⁺	++	+++	ND	++
	None (H ₂ O)	-	-	+	-
Zn ²⁺				+	
None (H ₂ O)				+	

Page 30, Table 7:

Table 7: Percentage of Fluorescein Attached

Labeling Agent	Metal ion	SEQ ID NO: 11 (RNA)	SEQ ID NO: 10 (RNA)	SEQ ID NO: 7 (RNA)	SEQ ID NO: 5 (DNA)
5-BMF	Zn ²⁺	34.0	48.4	40.6	119.
	Tb ³⁺	23.2	23.9	15.3	31.1
	None (H ₂ O)	5.21	0.511	5.05	0.683
6-IA-F	Zn ²⁺	21.0	27.0	31.3	125.
	Tb ³⁺	8.17	6.32	4.82	16.0
	None (H ₂ O)	3.88	0.579	0.939	1.63